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University of California
College of Agriculture
Agricultural Experiment Station
Berkeley, California

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California 1910-1934

by

H. J. Stover and D. R. Rush

A Supplementary Report

to

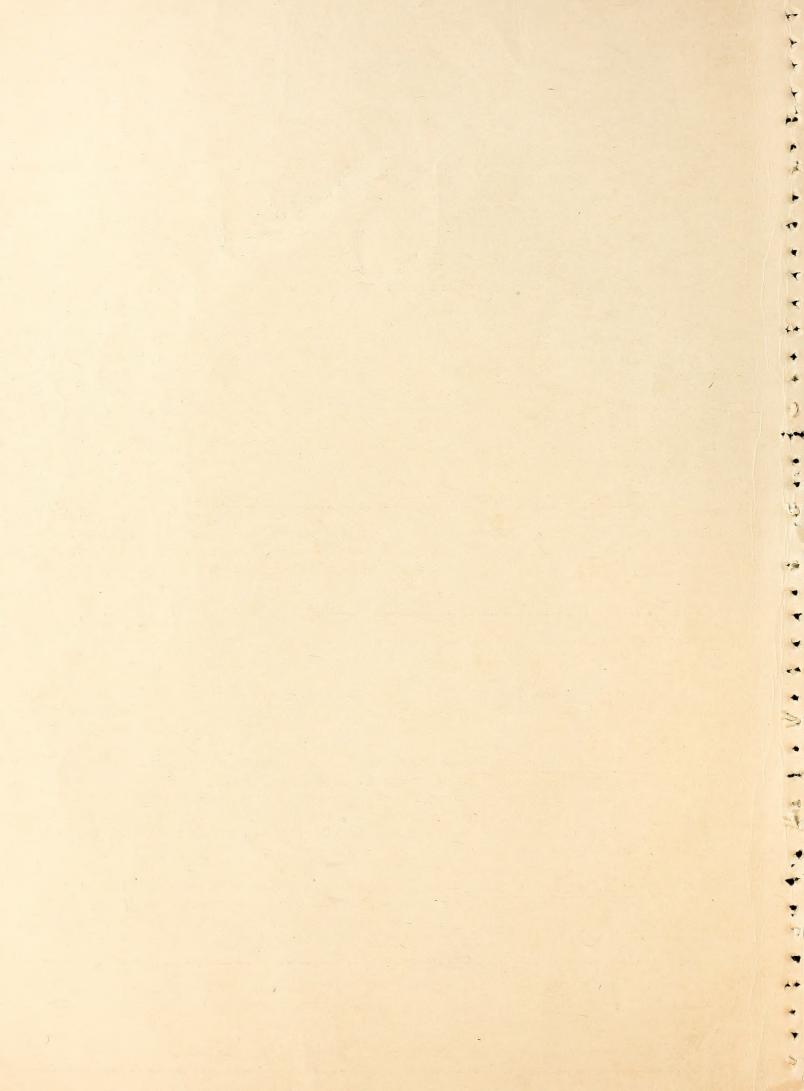
Experiment Station Bulletin 569

September, 1934

Contribution from the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics

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Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California 1910-1934

H. J. Stover and D. R. Rush 2/

A report under the title "Annual Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1933" was published as California Experiment Station Bulletin 569 in February, 1934. In that publication the author presented a series of index numbers of California farm prices which included the prices of thirty-five farm products, representing between 85 and 90 per cent of the gross cash income of the farmers of the state. The report contained a discussion of the method of constructing the index-number series, an interpretation of price movements as reflected in the indexes, and a tabular presentation of the price data used.

In response to a need for an index of California farm prices which pictures the changing current farm-price situation more satisfactorily than does an annual index, a monthly index-number series has been prepared. This monthly index includes the prices of twenty-four products, representing between 60 and 65 per cent of the gross cash income of the farmers of the state. Eleven of the products included in the annual index are not represented in the monthly index because, on account of the distinct seasonality in the sales of these products, monthly prices are unavailable for a large portion of the year.

Commodities Included in the Monthly Farm-Price Index. -- The commodities whose farm prices have been used in the construction of the monthly farm-price index for California include beef cattle, veal calves, hogs, sheep, lambs, milk, milk fat, butter, eggs, chickens, wool, horses, barley, wheat, oats, corn, hay, alfalfa, cotton, potatoes, beans, oranges, lemons, and apples.

Weight Assigned Different Commodities. -- In the construction of the monthly farm-price index, the weights assigned to the various products are the same as those used in the annual index. These are given in table 7 on page 19 of Bulletin 569:

Base Period. -- The base for the California monthly farm-price index is the average for the corresponding month during the five-year period, July, 1910 to June, 1915, inclusive.

Method of Computation. The monthly index, like the annual index, is of the aggregative type using fixed weights. The index number for a given month is obtained by multiplying the price of each commodity in that month by the weight assigned to it, adding the products, and dividing this sum by the average aggregate value of the same commodities in the corresponding month during the base period.

Sources of Price Data. The price data used in the computation of the indexes for the months prior to January, 1934, with the exception of cotton prices from 1910 to July, 1921 and of orange and lemon prices for 1910 and 1911, are given in tables 16 to 39, inclusive, in Bulletin 569. Cotton prices for

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^{2/} Research Assistant on the Giannini Foundation, 1932-33.

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the months prior to August, 1921 were estimated from the December 1 farm prices of cotton in California, the December 1 farm prices of cotton in Texas, and the monthly prices received by producers for cotton in Texas as reported by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture. These prices are given in table 1. The prices of oranges and lemons in 1910 and 1911 are estimates based on unpublished records of the net prices received for these fruits by the California Fruit Growers Exchange and on the relation between these prices and the prices received by producers as reported by the United States Department of Agriculture in later years. These estimates are given in tables 2 and 3.

All of the current prices used in the computation of the monthly index are the monthly prices received by producers at local farm markets in California as reported by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture. Prices for each month since January, 1934 are given in table 4.

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Monthly Farm Prices of Cotton, California, 1910-1921 (Cents per pound)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920	13.4 13.7 7.9 12.9 12.5 7.4 11.4 18.1 30.0 29.5 41.4	13.1 13.2 8.9 12.7 12.3 7.7 11.4 17.5 31.0 28.0 42.2	13.1 13.0 9.5 12.8 12.0 8.1 11.7 18.0 32.1 27.6 42.6	13.1 10.2 12.8 12.2 8.8 12.0 19.2 31.1 29.3 42.2	13.1 13.3 10.7 12.6 12.4 9.0 12.5 20.4 28.5 31.6 40.8	13.1 13.4 11.0 12.6 12.3 8.5 13.1 23.5 28.7 35.3 39.5	13.1 12.7 11.7 12.5 12.4 8.3 13.6 25.6 28.5 36.8 38.8	13.3 11.2 11.9 12.9 10.7 8.4 14.9 25.0 30.6 37.2 35.8	12.9 9.9 11.9 13.9 8.2 10.0 16.3 24.3 33.2 38.0 31.8	12.8 9.0 11.9 14.2 7.2 11.3 17.8 25.7 32.0 41.8 26.4	13.3 7.5 12.3 13.3 6.9 11.3 20.2 27.4 30.3 44.0 19.1	13.5 7.5 12.8 12.7 7.1 11.1 19.7 28.6 29.8 42.1 14.9
1921	13.2	12.4	11.2	10.4	10.4	10.0	10.0					

TABLE 2

Monthly Farm Prices of Oranges, California, 1910-1911
(Dollars per box)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
									2.99 3.02			

Monthly Farm Prices of Lemons, California, 1910-1911
(Dollars per box)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	2.24								2.96 2.58	4.25 2.77		

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				0.31 2.4 0.31 3.6 0.81 3.6 0.81 9.6		910 910 910 910 910 910 910 910 910 910

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			green an over the process of the fire garden		The second second second							



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TABLE 4

Monthly Farm Prices of Each of Twenty-Four Products, California, 1934

Apples (dollars per bushel)	per box)	granges (dollars per box)	Beans (dry) (dollars per bu.)	ents per bushel)	ents per pound)	ton)	(dollars per ton)	per bushel)			_	per head)	pound)	cens (cents per pound)	dozen)	r (cents per pound)	er pound)	(dollars per 100 pounds)	e)	er 100 pounds)	lars per 100 pounds)	Sheep	llars per 100 pounds)	-	llars per 100 pounds)	e s	llars per 100 pounds)	Beef cattle	Commodity
.75	2.75		1.95	75.0	10.9	9.10	8.30	59.0	40.0	69.0	40.0	61.00	21.0	13.0	19.1	9.0	18.0	1.50		6.30	3.20		3.80		5.30		3.80		Jan.
0.80	2.15	1.15	2.07	80.0	12.1	9.00	8.80	61.0	38.0	69.0	39.0	58.00	22.0	13.3	15.2	23.0	23.0	1.50		7.10	3.25		4.10		5.40		4.20		Feb.
0.80	2.70	1.20	2.10	75.0	12.1	8.40	8.20	60.0	35.0	65.0	34.0	60.00	25.0	13.3	14.0	24.0	24.0	1.60		8.20	3.60		4.45		5.60		4.40		Mar.
0.75	2.05	0.95	2.07	65.0	12.0	7.40	7.80	62.0	34.0	64.0	31.0	65.00	24.0	14.2	14.2	21.0	21.0	1.50		7.60	4.00		3.80		5.70		4.40		Apr.
1.00	3.00	1.65	2.01	75.0	11.8	8.20	8.00	62.0	34.0	0.69	31.0	68.00	22.0	13.5	14.8	21.0	21.0	1.50		7.20	3.20		3.55		5.40		4.40		May
0.75	3.70	2.95	2.04	60.0	12.4	7.90	8.00	73.0	34.0	72.0	37.0	69.00	20.0	13.5	16.5	22.0	22.0	1.50					3.65		5.40		4.25		June
1.00	3.50	2.20	1.98	50.0	13.0	8.30	7.80	78.0	36.0	72.0	42.0	70.00	19.0	14.2	17.9	24.0	23.0	1.60			3.35		4.50		5.40		4.40		July
0.65	2.75	2.25	2.22	50.0	13.8	9.00	8.40	92.0	43.0	82.0	52.0	69.00	18.0	14.4	21.1	25.0	25.0	1.60		5.30			4.75		5.40		4.35		Aug.
																													Sept.
																				ph.									Oct.
																													Nov.
																													Dec.

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Monthly Index Numbers, 1910-1934.-- Monthly index numbers of farm prices in California, for all products and by groups, are presented in tables 5 to 13, inclusive. The products included in the construction of each index series are listed in a footnote to the table containing the index.

Comparison of Annual Averages of Monthly Index Numbers and Annual Index Numbers. The omission of several important products of California agriculture from the monthly index limits somewhat its usefulness in representing the true farm-price situation in California over long periods of time. The justification for presenting it lies, primarily, in its use as an indicator of the course of farm prices during recent months.

The annual index numbers of farm prices in California, presented in Bulletin 569, included the following products which are not included in the monthly indexes: rice, sugar beets, grapes, peaches, pears, apricots, cherries, raisins, prunes, walnuts, and almonds. The influence which the prices of these products had upon the annual index from 1910 to 1933 is indicated by the differences between the annual index and the annual averages of the monthly indexes, shown in table 14. The major differences between the two index series occurred between 1919 and 1922 when the prices of several products not included in the monthly index, particularly grapes and raisins, were very high in relation to the prices of most other products.

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934
All Twenty-Four Products *

(Corresponding months, July, 1910 to June, 1915 = 100)

an. Fob. 00 100 97 96 02 104 05 106 01 99 95 95 98 104 20 131 66 189	96 91 108 110 97 93 98	96 95 107 114 94 90 97	May 101 102 102 111 94 92	June 108 100 102 112 94 93	July 102 97 95 117 89	99 90 92 125 94	103 100 89 115 94	0ct. 104 101 91 112 92	93 97 95 119	93 99 101 111
97 96 02 104 05 106 01 99 95 95 98 104 20 131	91 108 110 97 93 98	95 107 114 94 90 97	102 102 111 94 92	100 102 112 94	97 95 117 89	90 92 125	100 89 115	101 91 112	97 95 119	99 101 111
97 96 02 104 05 106 01 99 95 95 98 104 20 131	91 108 110 97 93 98	95 107 114 94 90 97	102 102 111 94 92	100 102 112 94	97 95 117 89	90 92 125	100 89 115	101 91 112	97 95 119	99 101 111
02 104 05 106 01 99 95 95 98 104 20 131	108 110 97 93 98	107 114 94 90 97	102 111 94 92	102 112 94	95 117 89	92 125	89 115	91 112	95 119	101
05 106 01 99 95 95 98 104 20 131	110 97 93 98	114 94 90 97	111 94 92	112 94	117 89	125	115	112	119	111
.01 99 95 95 98 104 .20 131	97 93 98	94 90 97	94 92	94	89					1
95 98 104 20 131	93 98	90 97	92			94	94	92	0.0	1 00
98 104 .20 131	98	97		93)		96	96
.20 131	3				84	84	85	90	104	100
1	135		99	104	112	114	114	114	123	120
66 189	1	143	146	146	137	135	137	137	146	155
	183	175	168	166	174	178	171	186	206	188
.83 177	176	171	175	177	166	161	158	161	170	182
200 210	212	206	202	203	187	175	167	161	160	145
35 124	120	116	103	108	114	114	112	118	124	118
14 128	139	140	146	149	140	133	126	124	125	129
33 135	129	130	130	136	128	116	119	124	130	124
19 127	122	124	112	128	111	128	130	130	146	135
52 155	157	151	161	179	156	141	157	158	174	140
134 142	140	145	132	126	124	115	116	131	134	130
30 134	130	127	120	136	130	134	147	151	151	145
49 154	152	152	168	158	157	148	153	147	146	137
138	132	130	127	138	123	134	140	141	135	155
	150	1	165	156		2	i .	138	115	95
93 91	91	83	89	82	86	82	78	84	79	79
73 79	73	70	68	62	63	62	70	70	7 5	72
69 58	57	56	63	72	70	68	68	387	67	65
74 75	77	68	78	94	83	81				
.803 131 131 131 141 141 159 7	3 177 0 210 5 124 4 128 3 135 9 127 2 155 4 142 0 134 9 154 150 91 79 59 58	3 177 176 0 210 212 5 124 120 4 128 139 3 135 129 9 127 122 2 155 157 4 142 140 0 134 130 9 154 152 138 132 150 91 91 79 73 59 58 57	3 177 176 171 0 210 212 206 5 124 120 116 4 128 139 140 3 135 129 130 9 127 122 124 2 155 157 151 4 142 140 145 0 134 130 127 9 154 152 152 15 138 132 130 15 150 152 91 91 91 83 79 73 70 59 58 57 56	3 177 176 171 175 0 210 212 206 202 5 124 120 116 103 4 128 139 140 146 3 135 129 130 130 9 127 122 124 112 2 155 157 151 161 4 142 140 145 132 0 134 130 127 120 9 154 152 152 168 138 132 130 127 60 150 152 165 91 91 83 89 73 70 68 69 58 57 56 63 58 57 56	3 177 176 171 175 177 0 210 212 206 202 203 5 124 120 116 103 108 4 128 139 140 146 149 3 135 129 130 130 136 9 127 122 124 112 128 155 157 151 161 179 4 142 140 145 132 126 0 134 130 127 120 136 9 154 152 152 168 158 36 138 132 130 127 138 36 150 152 165 156 37 79 73 70 68 62 39 58 57 56 63 72 44 75 77 68 78 94	3 177 176 171 175 177 166 0 210 212 206 202 203 187 5 124 120 116 103 108 114 4 128 139 140 146 149 140 3 135 129 130 130 136 128 9 127 122 124 112 128 111 155 157 151 161 179 156 4 142 140 145 132 126 124 0 134 130 127 120 136 130 9 154 152 152 168 158 157 13 132 130 127 138 123 150 150 152 165 156 139 91 91 83 89 82 86 <	3 177 176 171 175 177 166 161 0 210 212 206 202 203 187 175 5 124 120 116 103 108 114 114 4 128 139 140 146 149 140 133 3 135 129 130 130 136 128 116 9 127 122 124 112 128 111 128 155 157 151 161 179 156 141 4 142 140 145 132 126 124 115 4 134 130 127 120 136 130 134 9 154 152 152 168 158 157 148 15 150 152 165 156 139 136 9 1 83 89 82 86 82 9 79 73	3 177 176 171 175 177 166 161 158 0 210 212 206 202 203 187 175 167 5 124 120 116 103 108 114 114 112 4 128 139 140 146 149 140 133 126 3 135 129 130 130 136 128 116 119 9 127 122 124 112 128 111 128 130 155 157 151 161 179 156 141 157 4 142 140 145 132 126 124 115 116 0 134 130 127 120 136 130 134 147 9 154 152 152 168 158 157 148 153 13 138 132 130 127 138 123 136 1	3 177 176 171 175 177 166 161 158 161 0 210 212 206 202 203 187 175 167 161 5 124 120 116 103 108 114 114 112 118 4 128 139 140 146 149 140 133 126 124 135 129 130 130 136 128 116 119 124 19 127 122 124 112 128 111 128 130 130 155 157 151 161 179 156 141 157 158 4 142 140 145 132 126 124 115 116 131 19 154 152 168 158 157 148 153 147 146 150 150 152 165 156 139 136 129 138	3 177 176 171 175 177 166 161 158 161 170 0 210 212 206 202 203 187 175 167 161 160 5 124 120 116 103 108 114 114 112 118 124 4 128 139 140 146 149 140 133 126 124 125 3 135 129 130 130 136 128 116 119 124 130 9 127 122 124 112 128 111 128 130 130 146 12 155 157 151 161 179 156 141 157 158 174 4 142 140 145 132 126 124 115 116 131 134 134 130 127 120 136 130 134 147 146 154 <

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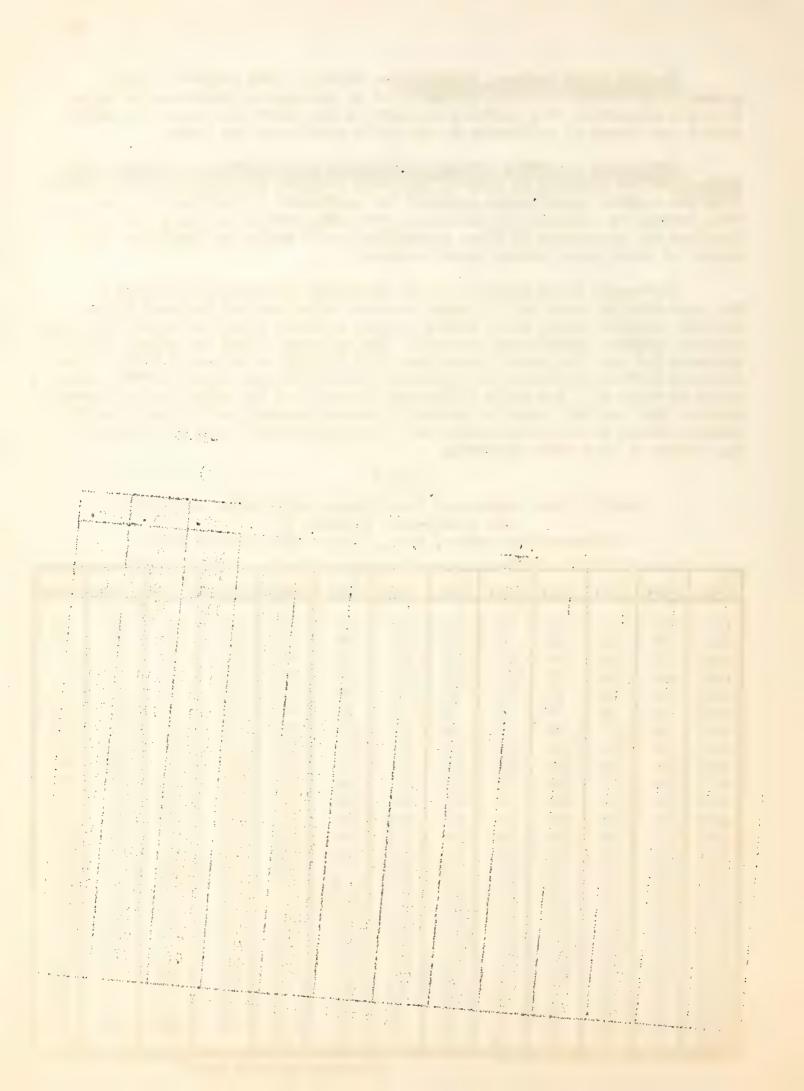


Table 5 continued:

* Beef cattle, veal calves, hogs, sheep, lambs, milk (wholesale), milk fat, butter, eggs, chickens, wool (unwashed), horses, barley, wheat, oats, corn, hay (loose), alfalfa hay, cotton, potatoes, beans (dry), oranges, lemons, and apples.

TABLE 6

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934

Twelve Livestock and Livestock Products *

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3030	707	7.0.7	200		700	7.00	700		200	7.0.5	700	***
1910	103	103	100	98	102	109	109	102	102	105	100	99
1911	102	97	97	97	101	96	96	90	98	93	94	98
1912	97	104	106	104	98	102	100	101	96	98	99	1.00
1913	101	101	106	103	104	101	95	105	101	103	105	104
1914	103	101	95	99	100	104	99	102	102	101	101	99
1915	. 97	97	96	96	97	97	98	99	95	97	99	96
1917	94	101	98	106	107	107	104	102	104	104	109	107
1917	112	124	128	138	147	141	140	142	141	144	142	142
1910	152	164	164	162	167	164	166	160	166	166	169	171
1919	172	167	182	185	194	185	182	176	170	170	170	178
1920	178	181	182	184	184	174	178	174	168	163	162	144
1922	134 106	134	128 127	121	115	114	119	122	122	126	124	118
1923	130		131	126	130	128	128	122	127	134	130 128	131
1924	126	132	135	132 128	138	137	130	129	126	130		124
		135			125	122	122	123	118	121	122	123
1925	130	139	146	141	145	143	144	142	140	143	143	137
1926	130	135	139	137	140	133	137	134	129	130	124	126
1927	128	133	136	138	135	130	126	125	126	129	128	128
1928 1929	133 135	135	140 148	140	144	140	140	140	141	139	135 133	134
1	8 1	142		149	154	148	142	142	140	136		125
1930 1931	125 92	130	133 98	132 95	129 93	123	115 83	110 88	110 86	107 84	102 79	95 79
1931		96				85					65	
1932	74	74	74	75 63	69	64	66	66	65	66 68	65	66 61
1934	64	59	63 76	74	70 74	70 73	74 74	71 74	69	00	00	0.1
7,90,z	61	70	10	(4t	1 '±	(3	/ 4±	(任				

^{*} Beef cattle, veal calves, hogs, sheep, lambs, milk (wholesale), milk fat, butter, eggs, chickens, wool (unwashed), and horses.

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TABLE 7

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934

Five Meat Animals *

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Now.	Dec.
7070	07	0.77	700	00	0.2	700	700		3.07	307	0.0	700
1910	93	93	100 97	98	92	108	108	97	103	107	96	100
1912	106	* 98		99	103	93	89	87	99	88	88	86
1913	76 100	88 101	91 102	95 10 0	90 102	91 104	93	100	89	92	96 112	100
1914	110	101	102	105	102	104	101	106 111	99	104	108	106
1915	108	109	107	103	100	104	107	106	110 97	109 98	108	100
1916	101	100	102	102	106	110	111	110	104	107	112	116
1917	124	128	138	147	148	150	157	153	155	160	168	160
1918	165	164	171	173	180	182	180	182	174	179	184	177
1919	186	185	184	184	191	185	190	190	170	169	168	172
1920	181	186	177	176	174	163	167	164	150	155	156	143
1921	146	138	128	123	112	115	114	117	106	107	109	102
1922	107	114	125	127	128	124	125	128	120	124	129	126
1923	134	128	123	117	116	118	118	121	115	120	123	116
1924	125	125	127	120	118	116	114	117	113	118	122	124
1925	131	136	141	141	138	145	147	147	140	145	149	146
1926	154	148	145	144	143	144	149	150	141	147	148	142
1927	144	142	141	142	140	139	137	144	138	147	149	152
1928	164	154	154	151	160	155	160	164	168	170	174	161
1929	167	159	164	162	177	161	162	166	157	160	159	150
1930	156	153	149	146	136	142	139	128	120	122	124	118
1931	123	115	109	104	96	92	95	95	86	85	84	81
1932	80	77	76	76	71	67	72	74	67	66	67	\$3
1933	60	60	63	63	66	70	73	74	68	68	71	64
1934	69	73	76	72	71	73	77	75	00	00	1 1	0.1
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^{*} Beef cattle, veal calves, hogs, sheep, and lambs.

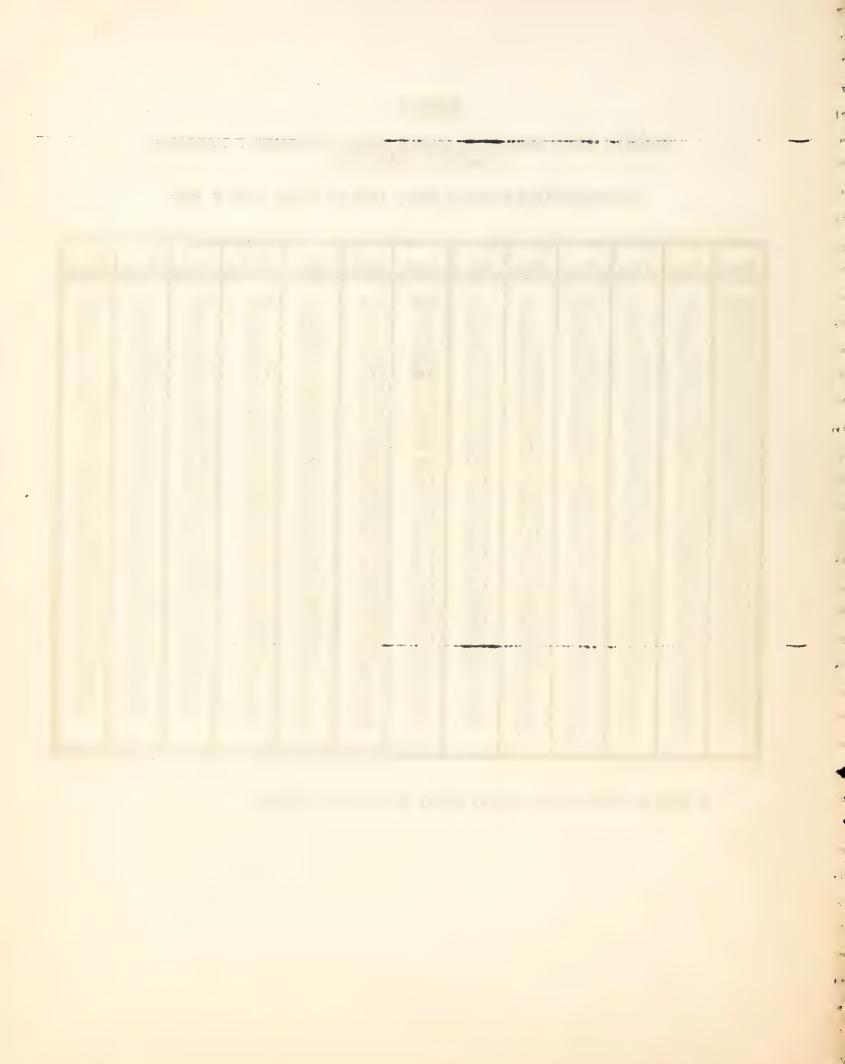


TABLE 8

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934

Three Dairy Products*

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar,	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	No v •	Dec.
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1910	108	106	92	93	106	110	112	107	100	106	104	99
1911	106	91	92	98	102	99	103	92	100	94	101	108
1912	108	118	122	115	107	118	108	107	103	108	106	104
1913	111	107	113	111	107	101	90	102	104	102	93	99
1914	88	91	86	90	95	93	87	92	92	91	95	90
1915	87	93	86	86	89	89	87	94	89	88	87	86
1916	86	98	94	101	101	99	90	88	95	92	100	99
1917	101	120	112	122	131	117	116	124	124	127	122	130
1918	133	156	146	138	140	139	139	136	145	152	152	155
1919	151	155	172	169 1	177	168	158	155	157	162	166	170
1920	172	183	179	179	184	178	176	180	175	159	152	141
1921	124	140	125	125	123	120	120	125	128	134	134	126
1922	117	133	126	123	129	231	128	121	127	134	127	133
1923	131	140	137	143	150	149	154	136	133	132	129	129
1924	133	145	143	127	125	122	116	118	108	110	106	114
1925	116	131	139	128	141	134	125	130	138	144	144	134
1926	118	130	132	127	137	116	123	124	118	120	109	125
1927	126	136	135	139	137	131	124	121	122	128	127	124
1928	126	133	129	128	137	131	122	128	131	131	128	127
1929	122	137	134	137	143	139	127	126	130	127	126	112
1930	108	120	120	124	126	114	103	103	102	101	98	95
1931	83	93	93	89	91	82	74	82	82	82	82	82
1932	73	76	70	75	67	60	61	62	60	62	62	70
1933	62	61	62	59	68	65	71	66	63	62	61	58
1934	55	68	72	68	70	67	67	68				

^{*} Milk (wholesale), milk fat, and butter.

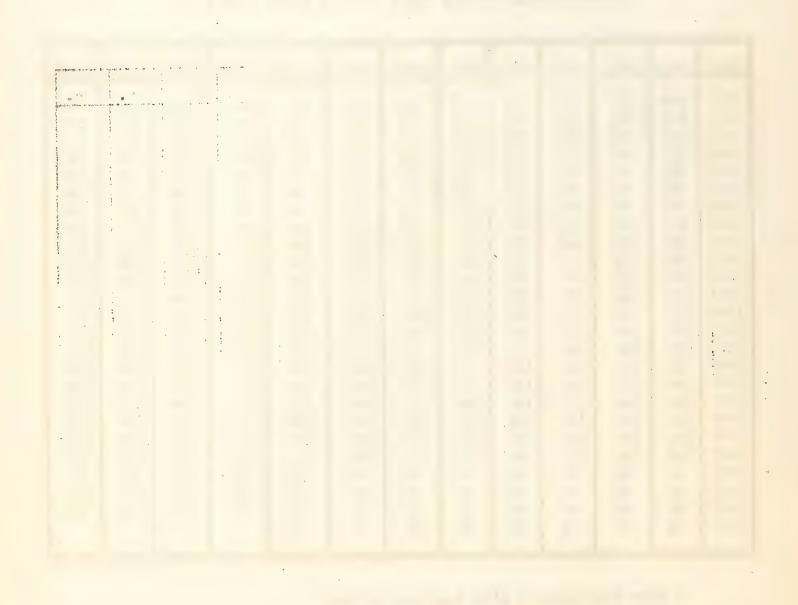
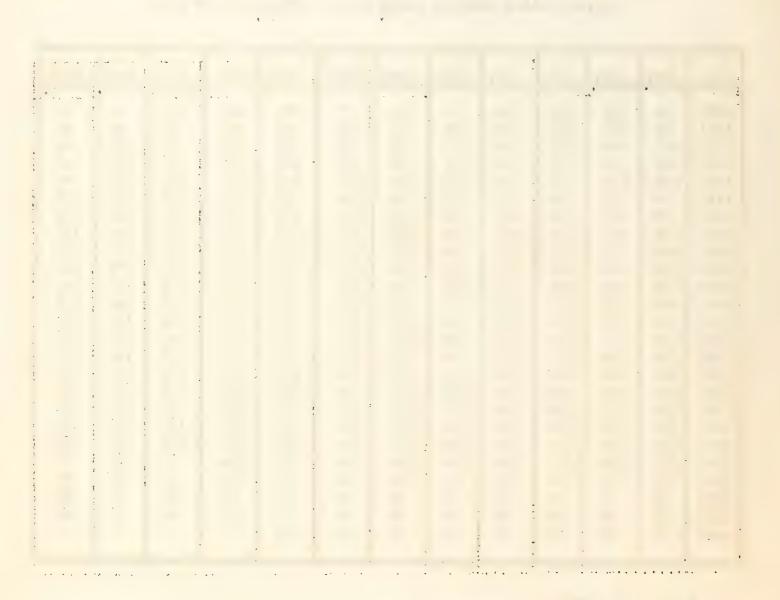


TABLE 9

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934
Two Poultry Products*

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1910	104	111	115	109	111	700	107	707	102	100	98	99
1910	94	104	107	96	98	109 97	96	101 92	97	97	93	99
1912	102	104	102	103	97	97	95	91	93	92	93	94
1913	89	93	97	94	101	9.7	95	108	100	104	115	110
1914	118	108	95	106	102	115	107	108	103	107	102	99
1915	97	91	99	101	102	98	104	96	100	105	108	101
1916	97	107	94	101	11.2	111	112	109	112	116	113	104
1917	112	116	124	140	154	148	137	136	135	133	129	127
1918	147	157	169	167	1.74	161	178	154	171	159	165	174
1919	174	147	184	212	219	204	200	183	180	174	171	183
1920	171	158	183	191	191	179	1.93	179	182	178	178	148
1921	139	121	143	118	114	112	132	132	137	138	130	125
1922	89	113	122	125	126	119	123	104	126	138	128	127
1923	117	113	116	127	133	130	130	124	121	130	126	118
1924	110	124	120	126	124	121	136	128	129	131	130	126
1925	136	138	149	146	151	148	162	146	134	133	132	124
1926	111	112	132	134	135	141	140	126	125	123	114	111
1927	108	106	118	125	117	110	107	103	112	110	107	106
1928	103	98	123	129	116	123	132	119	116	112	103	111
1929	112	117	137	139	127	144	140	136	132	121	114	116
1930	114	109	131	128	125	113	105	97	108	97	86	72
1931	71	72	88	91	91	82	85	89	90	85	73	74
1932	69	64	79	75	75	67	71	66	71	72	67	65
1933	74	55	69	72	78	73	73	71	72	6 8	59	58
1934	56	60	75	7 8	7 8	7 8	80	79				

^{*} Eggs and chickens.



11.0

TABLE 10

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934
Twelve Crops*

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	$\Lambda_{ t pr}$.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2020												
1910	98	97	92	94	100	107	96	97	103	104	86	86
1911	91	96	86	93	102	102	98	90	100	108	99	101
1912	108	105	109	110	104	102	90	84	82	85	91	102
1913	110	110	114	123	117	121	134	142	126	120	134	11.8
1914	99	97	99	89	89	86	82	88	88	84	90	93
1915	92	93	92	86	88	89	73	72	76	84	109	106
1916	102	107	97	89	93	102	118	123	123	123	138	135
1917	129	138	142	147	146	152	134	130	133	132	150	168
1918	182	213	199	185	170	168	181	193	176	203	243	206
1919	195	186	170	159	161	170	152	149	148	152	170	186
1920	225	240	238	224	216	227	195	175	166	159	159	146
1921	136	114	112	111	94	102	109	108	103	112	123	118
1922	124	134	150	152	158	167	150	142	126	115	121	126
1923	135	138	128	128	123	136	126	105	114	119	131	125
1924	111	119	111	122	102	133	102	132	140	137	169	147
1925	177	170	167	159	173	210	166	141	171	171	206	143
1926	138	149	141	152	126	121	113	99	105	131	146	133
1927	132	135	125	118	109	141	134	140	164	170	174	163
1928	166	173	164	163	188	174	172	155	163	154	157	141
1929	157	134	118	115	106	128	107	128	139	144	138	187
1930	177	171	165	168	193	184	159	158	144	165	128	95
1931	94	86	84	72	85	80	88	78	72	84	79	80
1932	73	84	72	65	66	60	61	58	75	73	86	80
1933	73	56	52	51	58	75	68	65	67	66	70	69
1934	88	80	78	64	81	111	90	86				

^{*} Barley, wheat, oats, corn, hay (loose), alfalfa hay, cotton, potatoes, beans (dry), oranges, lemons, and apples.

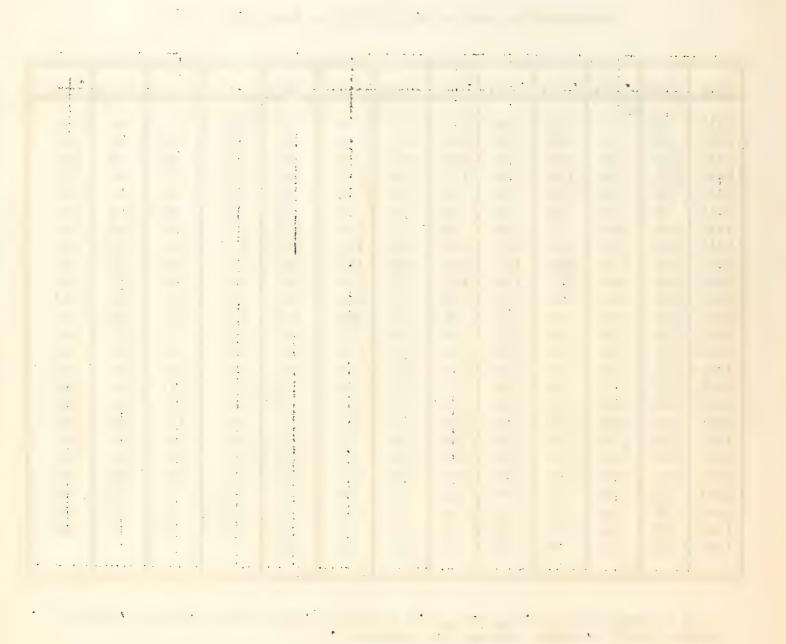


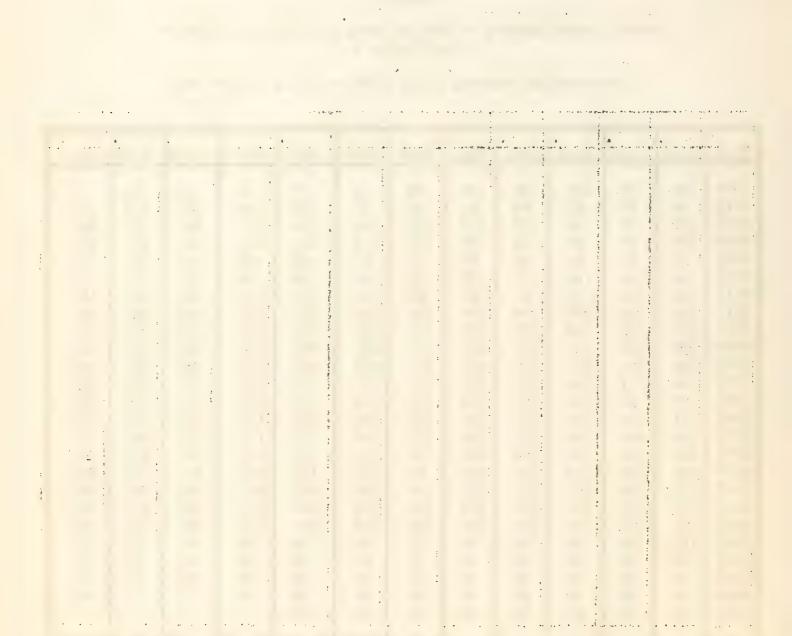
TABLE 11

Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934

Four Grains *

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1910	770	100	700	107	300	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	00	0.0
1911	110 83	108	109	107	100	96	94	98	96	91	90	86
1912		81	81	86	94	95	97	102	103	105	109	112
1912	113	113	115	117	116	115	114	109	104	104	102	103
1913	102	99	94	94	98	108	108	106	104	103	102	101
1	98	93	94	92	87	89	88	85	92	97	96	97
1915	104	114	115	111	105	93	89	97	96	95	96	96
1916	98	100	97	92	92	96	101	114	124	133	143	151
1917	153	154	157	176	206	198	183	201	206	200	195	194
1918	197	210	228	233	230	222	220	223	211	202	199	194
1919	186	175	179	184	197	217	231	235	239	239	220	213
1920	227	234	237	233	232	242	247	241	217	196	175	156
1921	138	127	124	112	103	110	115	112	106	104	100	100
1922	97	94	103	111	116	113	106	104	102	106	108	118
1923	121	113	116	115	116	113	108	109	111	118	116	115
1924	110	105	113	115	102	116	146	173	174	177	180	170
1925	184	186	164	141	142	143	137	142	139	133	134	130
1926	129	120	112	114	108	97	113	115	108	106	111	107
1927	105	109	111	111	116	132	130	140	142	140	138	134
1928	137	137	137	137	136	129	125	123	117	122	122	118
1929	121	119	118	115	113	105	112	124	122	121	11.8	11.6
1930	111	105	100	101	96	91	84	88	88	84	80	76
1931	72	69	64	68	74	71	65	68	67	67	77	75
1932	74	72	68	65	60	48	44	51	52	49	49	46
1933	45	42	44	47	54	55	81	79	75	71	70	67
1934	65	63	57	54	55	63	71	88				

^{*} Barley, wheat, oats, and corn.



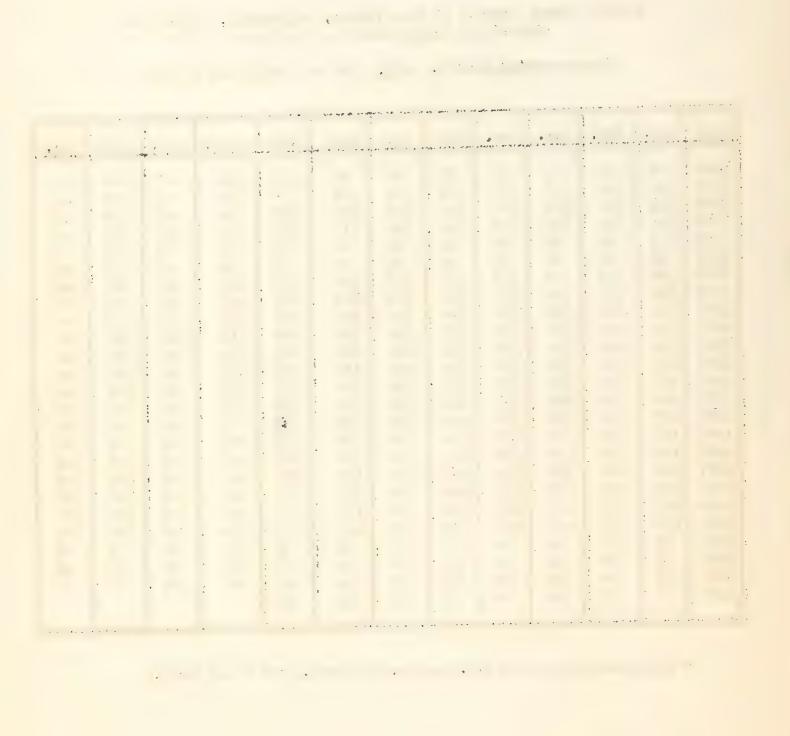
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Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934
Five Field Crops Other Than Grains *

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Λ pr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1910	97	96	87	89	87	97	95	102	106	107	107	101
1911	104	110	111	110	109	107	103	97	96	93	93	105
1912	103	102	108	108	102	107	102	102	104	106	107	110
1913	109	104	104	107	105	110	111	109	114	119	115	108
1914	102	94	88	84	90	89	89	89	80	76	78	76
1915	82	89	90	91	94	87	86	88	89	98	117	106
1916	108	112	114	107	107	116	145	135	137	136	158	162
1917	155	178 227	184 209	213	220 184	226 196	212 206	200	203	215	218	208
1910	211	188	173	204 165	165	189	196	218 198	212	219	232	178 224
1919	176 252	260	273	276	253	259	262	239	216	200	185	149
1920	138	125	121	108	108	111	110	110	122	130	132	129
1921	137	137	148	148	132	135	133	130	136	146	151	140
1923	146	154	149	153	148	150	146	145	174	177	180	170
1924	179	176	170	175	169	178	171	186	178	187	192	185
1925	191	188	179	177	180	183	184	171	175	165	179	166
1926	158	176	158	165	149	139	131	137	139	135	137	132
1927	129	132	129	128	125	146	140	139	147	143	141	134
1928	135	131	144	150	146	144	143	147	143	151	157	155
1929	161	170	169	172	167	169	172	174	178	184	181	172
1930	174	168	165	161	160	148	144	135	129	125	120	105
1931	99	101	96	89	90	87	82	81	79	80	87	83
1932	81	79	79	73	63	58	56	63	72	68	68	65
1933	67	62	62	66	78	77	90	90	90	84	88	82
1934	84	88	84	79	80	82	83	91				

^{*} Hay (loose), alfalfa hay, cotton, potatoes, and beans (dry).



Monthly Index Numbers of Farm Prices, California, 1910-1934
Three Fruits *

^{*} Oranges, lemons, and apples.

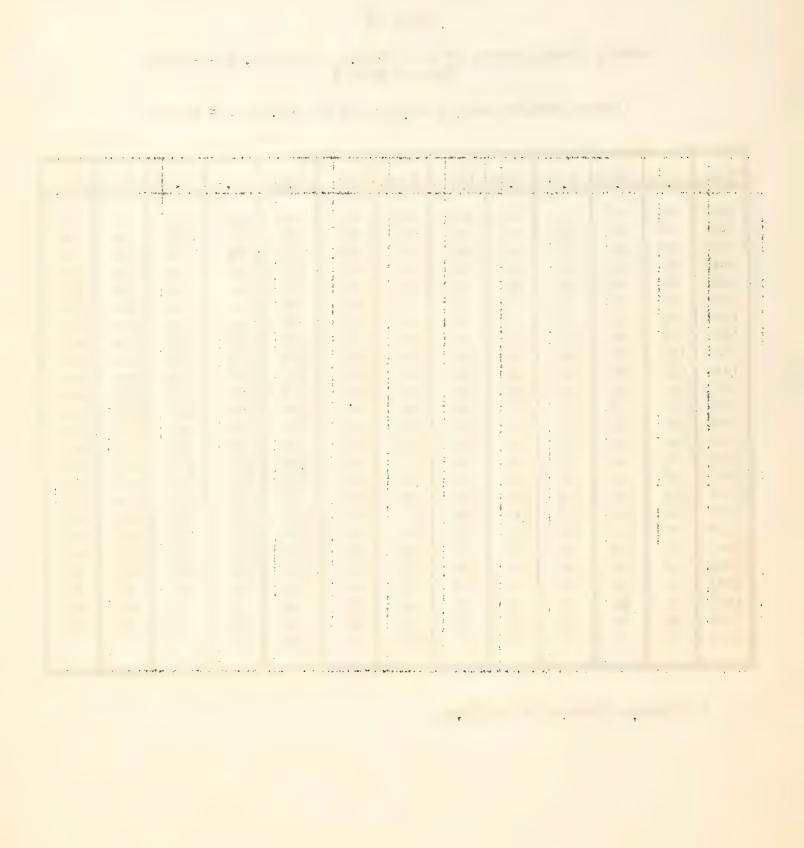


TABLE 14

Comparison of the Annual Averages of the Monthly Index Numbers (Twenty-four Products) and the Annual Index Numbers (Thirty-five Products) of Farm Prices, California, Years Beginning July, 1, 1910-1933 (July, 1910 to June, 1915=100)

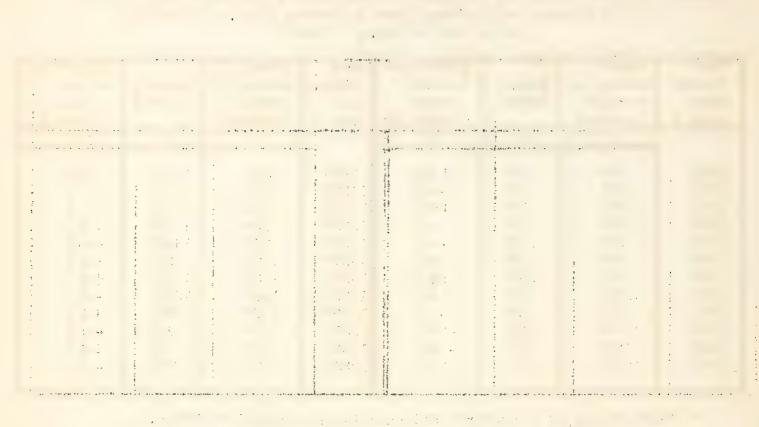
Year begin- ning July l	Annual average of monthly indexes*	Annual index	Difference (column 1 minus column 2)	Year begin- ning July l	innual average of monthly indexes*	Annual index †	Difference (column 4 minus column 5)
1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918	99 101 102 106 93 96 127 158 180	97 103 97 108 95 94 126 155 186	3 +2 +5 +5 -2 +2 +1 +3 -6	1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930	4 131 123 144 146 127 149 142 146 107	5 146 127 145 145 130 142 134 152 104	6 -15 - 4 - 1 + 1 - 3 + 7 + 8 - 6 + 3
1919 1920 1921	186 142 126	212 186 152	-26 -44 -26	1931 1932 1933	76 66 72	81 64 7 6	- 5 + 2 - 4

^{*} Calculations by the author based on data presented in table 5.

† Stover, H. J. Annual index numbers of farm prices, California, 1910-1933. California Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 569:26. Table 10. 1934.

The monthly indexes for several of the groups of products include the same products as the annual indexes constructed for these groups while others differ considerably. Since the composition of the meat-animal, dairy-product, poultry-product, and livestock and livestock-product groups is similar for the monthly and annual indexes, the corresponding index series for these groups are directly comparable. The annual index for the group of grains includes rice; the annual index for field crops other than grains includes sugar beets; the annual index for fruits includes grapes, peaches, pears, apricots, cherries, raisins, and prunes; and the annual index for crops includes, in addition to these products, walnuts and almonds -- all of which are not included in the monthly indexes for these groups.

The Prices of Individual Products and Index Numbers of Prices. — One of the chief values of a price-index series lies in its service as a basis for appraising the status of individual prices. Since all prices are relatively only by making comparisons of one sort and another can one truly evaluate price levels and price movements. Whether one considers a particular price high or low depends upon the criteria one uses in determining these values. The price of a given product at a given time may be higher or lower than it was at some other time, higher or lower than the price of some other product at the same



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time, or higher or lower than the price of some other product or group of products at a given time in relation to their respective positions at some other time.

A form which has been developed to facilitate the making of significant comparisons among farm prices in California is presented in table 15. Data for the month of August have been entered for purposes of illustration. Current monthly summaries presented in this form will be supplied those requesting same.

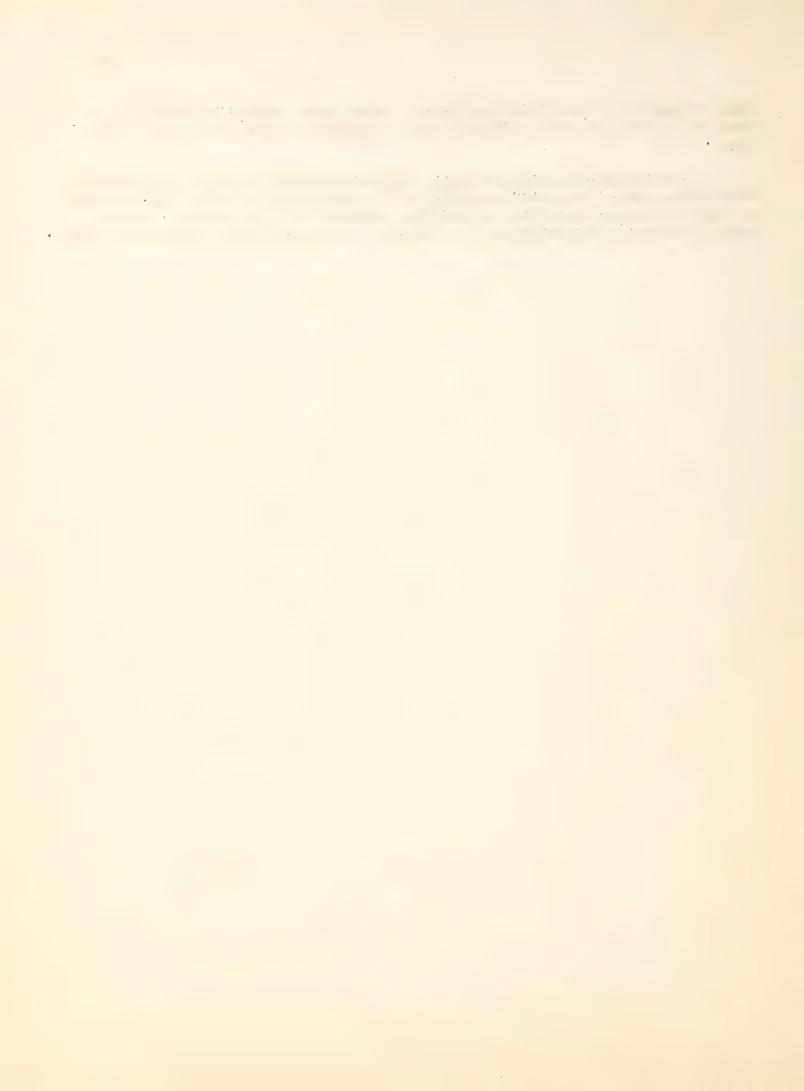


TABLE 15

Monthly Farm Prices, California, August, 1934, Compared With Prices for Same Month During Earlier Years

Wool and horses Grains	Poultry products	Dairy products	Meat animals	Thoras (Der pasiter)	つき	o o	(pe	13	Potatoes (per bushel)	Cotton (& per pound)		⊕ .	Corn (& per bushel)	Oats (per bushel)	& p		(\$ pe		cens (¢	Eggs (¢ per dozen)	O		per 100	fo	o (se	()	Veal calves (\$ per 100 lbs.)	Beef cattle (\$ per 100 lbs.)		Commodity		
				0	0 82	3.48	2.63	2.73	76.0	12.0	9.05	10.24	85.6	51.0	93.2	59.0	142.00	15,6	14.7	27.6	29.4	33.7	2.53	5.58	4.62	7.40	6.78	5,78	1910-14	August	لبا	
				1000	7 70	2.74	3.57	4.17	121.2	20.0	13,92	13.02	130.2	57.8	129.6	82.4	90.00	34.2	24.8	32.8	47.6	50.3	2.58	11.16	7.32	11.68	9.70	7.14	1924-28	August	Farm price:	
				• 00		4.28		1.83	50.0	6.5	6.00	5.80	57.0	27.0	57.0	25.0	50.00	7.0	15.0	17.0	21.0	20.0	1.65	4.20	2.40	4.50	5.60	4.60		August	s in Cali	
				0.00	חת	2.33	1.20	2.52	105.0	9.0	7.20	7.70	67.0	41.0	79.0	44.0	56.00	20.0	14.0	18.9	23.0	23.0	1.60	•	2.50	4.75	5.10	4.35		August	California	
				•	2	•	N	2.22		CN			2	CA		2	9		4			U			3.00	4.75	5.40	4.35	1934	August		
43 51	66	62	74		79	123	35	67	66	54	66	57	67	53	61	42	35	45	102	62	71	59	65	75	52	61	83	80	1932	August	1910	3
114 79	71	66	74	ć	200	67	46	92	138	75	80	75	78	80	85	75	39	128	95	68	78	68	63	99	54	64	75	75	1933	August	pri	
105	79	68	75	ć	78	79	86	81	66	115	99	82	108	84	88	38	49	115	98	76	85	74	63	95	65	64	03	75	1934	August	on or	ignist.
37	53	50	51	F	2.7	156	26	44	41	32	43	44	44	47	44	30	56	20	60	52	44	40	64	38	33	38	58	64	1932	C	192	
57				Ą	40	8 5	34	60	87	45	52	59	52	71	61	53	62	58	56	58	48	46	62	49	34	41	53	61	1933	August	-28 pr	ent of A
54 64	63	55	52	H	47	100	63	53	41	69	65	64	71	74	63	63	77	53	58	64	52	50	53	48	41	41	56	61	1934	August	ices	agust.

(Table continued on next page)

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Table 15 continued:

All products	Livestock and livestock products Crops	Field crops other than grains Fruits	Commodity August 1910-1	
			Hz	
			August 1924-28	rm pric
			Auguet 1932	es in Ca
			August 1933	Farm prices in California
			tugust 1934	,
62	58	63	August	Per c
	58	58	1932	191
68	71	90	August	Per cent of August
	65	52	1933	1910-14 prices
81	74	91	August	ugust
	86	84	1934	ces
46	50	41	August	Per c
	44	47	1932	192
51	54	58	August	Per cent of August
	48	42	1933	1924-28 prices
61	56	59	August	ugust
	64	67	1934	ces

